
HIPOTAXE ADVERBIAL COMPARATIVA EM LIBRAS: UMA VISÃO PANORÂMICA

Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis in Libras: A Panoramic View

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RESUMO: Este artigo analisa a hipotaxe adverbial comparativa na Libras. Esse tipo de cláusula estabelece a comparação entre dois ou mais eventos na sinalização. As relações estabelecidas nas comparações podem ser de igualdade, superioridade ou inferioridade. Foram analisados dados de quatro entrevistas dos Surdos de Referência do Corpus de Libras, dos quais duas informantes são mulheres e dois são homens. Alguns conectivos podem desempenhar o papel de conectivos nas orações complexas. Outra estratégia linguística presente na articulação da hipotaxe comparativa é a justaposição de eventos, sem a necessidade de um conectivo que articule as orações. Além do mais, marcações não-manuais são utilizadas nas orações comparativas como um mecanismo de articulação nas cláusulas complexas. Dentre as marcações não-manuais analisadas nos dados da pesquisa, encontram-se o piscar de olhos, olhos semicerrados ou sobrancelhas elevadas, além do giro do tronco e da cabeça.

PALAVRAS-CHAVE: Articulação de orações; Hipotaxe Adverbial Comparativa; Sentenças Complexas. Surdos de Referência. Libras.

ABSTRACT: This article analyzes comparative adverbial hypotaxis in Libras. This type of clause establishes a comparison between two or more events in signing. The relationships established in the comparisons can be of equality, superiority, or inferiority. Data from four interviews with Deaf Reference Participants of the Libras Corpus were analyzed, of which two informants were women and two were men. Some connectives may play the role of connectives in complex sentences. Another linguistic strategy present in the articulation of comparative hypotaxis is the juxtaposition of events, without the need for a connective to articulate the sentences. Furthermore, non-manual markings are used in comparative sentences as an articulation mechanism in complex clauses. Among the non-manual markings analyzed in the research data are blinking, half-closed eyes or raised eyebrows, turning the trunk and head.

KEYWORDS: Combining Complex Clauses; Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis; Complex Clauses. Deaf Reference. Libras.

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1 Introduction

This research aims to discuss the comparative adverbial hypotaxis of Libras. Like other sign and spoken languages, Libras displays specific linguistic strategies to combine complex clauses. Regarding comparative adverbial hypotaxis, Libras employs several linguistic mechanisms such as juxtaposition, the use of non-manual markers, as well as the use of some signs that may play the role of a connective in the clause. Research on comparative adverbial hypotaxis is quite recent in Libras, with some works on this type of complex sentence, even though there are general analyses in those studies. For example, the research by Carneiro and Ludwig (2020a; 2020b) presents an overview of the articulation of complex sentences in Libras; a grammar of Libras, organized by Quadros et al. (2021; 2022) also discuss general analyses on the articulation of complex sentences.

The articulation of complex sentence units is a linguistic mechanism found in all spoken and sign languages. This process enables complex clauses that are presented in a *continuum* gradient displayed in parataxis – hypotaxis – embedding (Carneiro; Ludwig, 2020a; 2020b). Clause combining is a linguistic strategy that integrates the syntactic, semantic, and pragmatic levels of the language in use. This research aims to describe the process of combining complex clauses in Libras, in particular comparative adverbial hypotaxis. Based on the data found in Libras, the use of juxtaposition is analyzed as a specific strategy for combining clauses in this language. Furthermore, non-manual markers, including facial expressions and head and trunk movements, as well as the use of space can play the role of an articulator in the process of constituting complex sentences. There are some lexical items that may function as connectives between complex sentences.

2. Combining Complex Clauses

2.1 Parataxis, Hypotaxis, and Embedding

In this research, the terminology proposed by Lehman (1988) is employed. According to Lehman (1988), the adopted terminologies can be related as follows: parataxis (Lehmann, 1988) is the process of coordinating sentences. Halliday (2004, p. 452) defines parataxis as the combination of sentences with the same hierarchical syntactic status, with symmetrical

relations prevailing between the combined sentences. This research, however, does not develop analyses on parataxis.

Subordination can be considered a mechanism for connecting complex sentences, in a broader sense, as a “prototypical concept” (Lehman, 1988, p. 2). It is integrated by hypotaxis and embeddedness, and was used by structuralist linguistic schools and classical philology to conceptualize the relationship of complex sentences in a broad sense (Lehman, 1988). Hypotaxis is conceived as the “subordination of a sentence in the strict sense”, which has a relationship of dependency and functions as a satellite of the nuclear clause. Halliday (2004) points out that hypotaxis is the connection of elements that do not have the same hierarchical status from a syntactic point of view.

On the other hand, Lehman defines embedding as “the dependence of a subordinate syntagm” (1988, p. 2). In other words, a given syntagm is modified by an embedded sentence. In this sense, embedding modifies a nominal syntagm within a clause, specifying or explaining the meaning of this nominal nucleus or, in some cases, an entire clause.

2.2 Adverbial Comparative Hypotaxis

Comparative adverbial hypotaxis establishes comparisons between two actions from the point of view of equality, difference, superiority, or inferiority. Quadros et al. (2023) define that, in comparative adverbial hypotaxis,

an essential feature of the comparative construction is the existence of an element common to both compared members, so that every comparative construction is a meeting between equals, based on a comparison of equality, or between different ones, through a comparison of superiority and inferiority. (Quadros et al., 2023, p. 189)

Lima (2002), when discussing comparative relations in the Portuguese language, defines that the ‘establishment of a comparative relation is carried out from the selection of two states of affairs, which, when compared, are presented as having something in common.’ (2002, p. 148). Thus, comparisons always occur with some element shared between the events, denoting equality, or difference.

In this way, Lima (2002) emphasizes the importance of comparisons in the discourse we use every day: ‘Comparisons are so abundant in the material analyzed that it can be said,

roughly speaking, that comparison is the basis of our perception of reality, and, therefore, it manifests itself linguistically with great frequency.’ (2002, p. 148-149). Conceptualizations and definitions of referents in the real and imaginary world go through comparative processes in order to define a given referent.

Thus, the comparison between two events can be made from the real and possible (factual) or unreal and imaginary (counterfactual) point of view. From this point of view, Lima (2002) presents the results of his research: ‘By analyzing the parts that are compared, it is seen that the speaker can relate them not only on the basis of factuality, but also on the basis of counterfactuality.’ (2002, p. 150).

According to Quadros et. al. (2023), comparative adverbial hypotaxis consists of a nuclear sentence and a comparative sentence. Thus, the first structure, the nuclear clause, presents the compared action, while the second structure, the comparative adverbial hypotaxis, is the event with which the comparison is established. Thus, there is a syntactic interdependence between the two elements compared in the complex structure, as well as a semantic relationship between these two elements. Thus, Quadros et. al. (2023) pointed out that

comparative constructions are composed of a nuclear clause and a comparative clause. The first term of the comparison, which is present in the main clause, is the constituent compared, while the second term of the comparison, present in the comparative clause, is the constituent with which the comparison is made. (2023, p. 189)

Research by Quadros et. al. (2023) on Libras found that the comparative adverbial hypotaxis of equality can be marked by a connective such as the signs *TAMBÉM* (also), *IGUAL* (equal) and *PARECER* (seem). The presence of some non-manual markers such as mouthing is also evident, which seems to articulate the word *IGUAL* (equal) in Portuguese.

3. Methodology

This research is part of the National Libras Inventory, with data from the Deaf Reference. Therefore, we will use data from this Libras Inventory, following the methodology standardized by this inventory. The National Libras Inventory uses a standardized collection, storage, transcription, translation, and validation methodology. All states that have implemented the

Libras Inventory use the same collection methodology. Data collection is carried out in a filming studio, with 4 cameras arranged at different angles of the studio so that different signage perspectives can be recorded.

Data collection consists of the following instruments: i) life interview (30 minutes); ii) narrative elicitation activity (20-30 minutes); iii) 20-minute break; iv) grammatical and lexical elicitation activity (30 minutes); v) conversation (20-30 minutes).

After data collection, it is stored with easily retrievable metadata records. In addition, the data were transcribed using ELAN (Eudico Linguistic Annotator), a multimodal software used for transcriptions in linguistic research of spoken and sign languages. To this end, different gloss tiers were created for each signer in the two discursive contexts. The glosses use capital letters, following the convention of the National Inventory of Libras. Specific tiers were created for complex sentence units, linked to controlled vocabulary tracks: a track with Parataxis, with the conjunctive, disjunctive, and adversative types; Hypotaxis, with the conditional adverbial, causal, comparative, temporal, and non-restrictive hypotaxis types; embedded, with the subjective noun, objective noun, and restrictive relative types. In all types of clauses, tiers with manual and non-manual subtypes were created. Manual clauses display some lexical item that can function as a connective in the sentence, while non-manual sentences indicate that there is no connective in the sentence, but the strategy of juxtaposing sentences is used.

In this research on comparative clauses in Libras, the following data was used: *Surdos de Referência*, with interviews with two women and two men. The choice of these videos aims to verify how complex clauses are combined in different discursive contexts. The interview with the interviewees was used to analyze the comparative adverbial hypotaxis in Libras.

In addition, since this is a systemic-functionalist approach, the transcription of the data in this research seeks to place the reader in the context of the sentence, indicating more elements to understand the dialogue, which goes beyond the comparative adverbial hypotaxis clause.

Regarding the clauses analyzed, the videos are inserted in QR-code and with a direct access link, in addition to the images of each sign of the Complex Sentence Units. Glosses are inserted below the images. When there is an omission of a sign that is recovered in the context,

it will appear in brackets. Also, glosses in English are inserted after the glosses in Portuguese, followed by the translation in English.

4. Data Analysis

The research included transcriptions and analysis of four informants from the Deaf Reference Group. They are two women and two men, whose sign language is recognized by the Brazilian deaf community as linguistic references. In addition, they are local, regional, and/or national deaf leaders. The analysis presents the following data from the transcriptions and analyses of the interviews:

Table 1 – Data from the analysis of the interviews

Interviewee	Interview duration	Utterances	Sentences	Parataxis	Hypotaxis	Embedding
M06 – Machado	33 min 16 segs.	20	253	176	191	110
F01 – Vilhalva	37 min 22 segs.	27	179	114	140	78
F05 – Souza	23 min 38 segs.	29	186	108	142	88
M05 – Albuquerque	35 min 59 segs.	31	282	180	228	122
Total	130 min 15 segs. = 2h 10 min 15 segs.	107	900	578	701	398

Source: Interview Data

At the whole, 2 hours, 10 minutes, and 15 seconds of the deaf interviewees' signing were analyzed. Hypotaxis is the most expressive of the three groups of clauses, summing up 701 complex sentence units. Among the hypotactic sentences, the following results were found:

Table 2 – Quantitative Hypotaxis found in the analysis of the interviews

Types of Hypotaxis	Machado	Vilhalva	Souza	Albuquerque	Total
Causal	51	46	43	48	188
Comparative	26	20	9	20	75
Conditional	12	13	7	23	55
Non-restrictive	26	11	23	29	89
Purpose	11	10	8	12	41
Temporal	53	39	41	74	207

Source: Interview Data

In the analysis of the hypotaxis data in Libras, 74 clauses with comparative adverbial hypotaxis were found. Some complex clauses display more than one adverbial hypotaxis. Therefore, a tier named Hypotactic Combination was initially created, in which more than one

hypotaxis is allocated. This happens because the discursive flow does not allow segmentation without losing meaning in the sentence. Later, in the analysis, parts of the sentences of the Hypotactic Combination were analyzed, maintaining the general context.

In addition, the analysis revealed two subtypes of comparative adverbial hypotaxis: syndetic or asyndetic. These two categories are distinguished as follows: the syndetic comparative adverbial hypotaxis presents a manual sign that functions as a connective between the sentences. On the other hand, asyndetic comparative adverbial hypotaxis does not have any manual sign that functions as a connective, but it normally uses the linguistic mechanism of juxtaposition between complex sentences and non-manual markers to combine clauses. Thus, the proposition between the sentences emerges from the discursive context. Table 3 presents the number of syndetic and asyndetic comparative hypotaxis sentences:

Table 3 – Number of Syndetic and Asyndetic Comparative Hypotaxis

Interviewee	Syndetic comparative hypotaxis	Asyndetic comparative hypotaxis	Total
M06 – Machado	24	2	26
F01 – Vilhalva	13	7	20
F05 – Souza	5	4	9
M05 – Albuquerque	15	3	18
Total	56	17	73
Percentual	76,71%	23,29%	100%

Source: Interview Data

There is a greater number of syndetic comparative adverbial hypotaxis (76.71%) than asyndetic ones (23.29%). Among the manual signs, which have the function of a sentence connective, the signs IGUAL (equal), MAIS.... DO-QUE (more... than), MAIS (more), POUCO (little) e MAIS-OU-MENOS (more or less), SUPERAR (beat).

4.1 Analysis of Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis

This session analyzes some examples of comparative adverbial hypotaxis in Libras.

Complex Clause 1 – Syndetic Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis



IX-isso

L1

L2

ENTÃO

EU



DESCOBRIR

NÃO

PORQUE

IGUALDADE

IGUAL

CODA



SABER-NÃO

ENTÃO

IX-esse

L1



[Video Link](#)

Source: Vilhalva's Interview, 2017.

ix-that FL SL then I found-out not because equality equal coda know-not then ix-this FL

Translation: I couldn't distinguish first language and second language, because (for me they were on the same level of) equality, it was the same as codas who don't know how to distinguish what is first and second language.

Complex clause 1 displays a syndetic comparative adverbial hypotaxis. The main clause is composed by the first segment of the complex clause unit IX-ESSE L1 L2 ENTÃO DESCOBRIR NÃO (ix-that FL SL then I found-out not). This comparative hypotaxis clause is marked by the signs IGUALDADE IGUAL (equality equal). The sign IGUAL (equal) functions as a connective

between both clauses. The informant establishes the comparison between her perception that she made no difference between FL and SL with the same situation of the codas, children of deaf parents, who also cannot define which is their first or second language. In the comparative hypotaxis, there is the non-manual marker blink on the sign CODA, which seems to emphasize the relationship of comparison between the codas and the signer.

Complex Clause 2 – Syndetic Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis



ESCREVER ESPANHOL

É

EMOCIONAR



MAIS

O-QUE

IX-eu

VER



LER

ESPANHOL

EMOCIONARMAIS



DO-QUE [LER] PORTUGUÊS



[Link do vídeo](#)

Source: Vilhalva's Interview, 2017.

Write Spanish is emotion more what I see read Spanish emotion more than [read] Portuguese.

Translation: Writing in Spanish makes me emotional, when I see and read in Spanish, I feel more emotion than (when I read) in Portuguese.

Complex clause 2 conveys a hypotactic comparative syndetic clause. The lexical items MAIS (more) and MAIS... DO-QUE (more... than) highlight the relationship between the two comparisons established in the sentence: that is, the deaf informant establishes a comparison between reading in Portuguese and Spanish. These signs have the function of a connective between the sentences, enhancing the comparison between the sentences. This comparison demonstrates her affective and emotional relationship regarding the practice of reading in Spanish more than in Portuguese. Considering the principle of linguistic economy common to all languages, in the second construction, MAIS DO-QUE [LER] PORTUGUÊS (more than [read] Portuguese), the verb LER (read) in Libras is omitted, which is easily recovered in the context of signing, since it has already been uttered in the first part of the complex clause: VER LER ESPANHOL (see read Spanish). This complex clause also presents the non-manual marker eye-blink immediately after the sign MAIS (more). The non-manual marker eye-blink are reported in other research as a linguistic mechanism of Libras to mark the boundaries between internal sentences of a complex clause, as in the research by Quadros et. al. (2023), Ludwig (2021; 2022) and Carneiro and Ludwig (2020a; 2020b). Furthermore, the eyebrows raised on the construction É EMOCIONAR MAIS O-QUE (is emotion more what) emphasize the comparative relationship in the clause. This non-manual marker is also reported in research on complex

clauses as a mechanism to enhance the relationship between complex sentences (Quadros et. al., 2023; Ludwig, Quadros, Silva, 2022; Ludwig, Quadros, Rodrigues, 2022).

UOC – Syndetic Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis



Source: Machado's interview, 2017.

how [is] different ix-I feel Portuguese [is] important but libras more [important] ix-libras

Translation: What is the difference? I feel that the Portuguese language is important, but Libras, the sign language, is more important (than Portuguese).

Complex clause 3 displays a syndetic comparative adverbial hypotaxis marked by the sign MAIS (more). This lexical item plays the role of a connective between the sentences, highlighting the comparison between them. The deaf informant establishes a relationship between the level of importance of Libras and Portuguese in his life. Although the sign IMPORTANTE (important) is omitted in the second part of the clause, it can be recovered in the discourse context. In sign languages in general, as well as in Libras, the omission of the verb SER (be) together with adjectives is very common, since it can always be recovered in the discursive context (Quadros et. al., 2023). According to Givón (2001, p. 106), state verbs must have the following characteristics: 'A proposition can mean a state, not involving any change over time.

The state can be temporary (of limited duration), or permanent (of relatively long duration), or even of intermediate duration.’ In that sense, Givón (2001) cites some examples of states: *She was angry*, indicating a temporary state; *She was tall*, denoting a permanent state. In Libras, Quadros et. al. (2023) Libras out that signs with the function of state verbs can have the verb É (is) omitted, as in [É] IMPOSSÍVEL, [É] IMPORTANTE, [É] DIFFERENTE, [É] ESPECIAL ([is] impossible, [is] important, [is] different, [is] special), among others. Therefore, the verbal function of the sign is identified by the relationship established in the discursive context.

In addition, the sign DIFFERENTE (different) in the first part of the sentence demonstrates a comparison that the two languages do not have the same importance in the signer’s life, since Libras is his first language, while written Portuguese is his second language. The non-manual marker eye-blink occurs over the sign MAIS (more), which can play the role of a linguistic articulator to mark complex sentences, as already reported in other studies (Quadros et. al., 2023; Ludwig 2021; 2022; and Carneiro and Ludwig (2020a; 2020b). Furthermore, when referring to the Portuguese language, the signer uses the expression of focus, which is characterized by open eyes and raised eyebrows. On the other hand, when referring to Libras, he uses squint eyes. This specific use of non-manual markers creates a prosodic contrast between the clauses, suggesting the boundaries between them and emphasizing the comparison established in the discourse.

Complex clause 4 – Syndetic Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis



TER

PASSADO

CLARO COMEÇAR



BARREIRA ESSÊNCIA

ENSINAR

POUCO



IGUAL

BICICLETA

DV-andar-bicicleta-cambaleiar

[Link do vídeo](#)

Fonte: Entrevista de Albuquerque, 2017.

There-be past of-course start barrier not-clear teach little equal bicycle DV-ride-bicycle-stagger

Translation: Of course, there were limits in the past, when I started (learning Portuguese), I didn't understand it properly, they taught me little by little, it was like learning to ride a bike, you keep staggering.

Complex clause 4 presents a syndetic comparative hypotaxis, marked by the sign IGUAL (equal) in Libras. The relationship established is between teaching Portuguese and riding a bicycle. The sign IGUAL (equal) marks the relationship between these two actions, although it does not define it, since the comparative structure emerges from the proposition stated in the discursive context. This sign appears in other data of comparative hypotaxis and seems to play the role of a connective between the sentences, evidencing the comparison between the sentences. The comparison is found at the end of the complex sentence unit: ENSINAR POUCO IGUAL BICICLETA DV-andar-bicicleta-cambaleiar (teach little equal bicycle dv-ride-bicycle-stagger). As one can be seen, the use of the descriptive verb DV-andar-bicicleta-cambaleiar (dv-

ride-bicycle-stagger) suggests the staggering relationship between learning to ride a bicycle and learning the Portuguese language.

Complex Clause 5 – Syndetic Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis



SABER



MAIS



O-QUE



PORTUGUÊS



ADORAR



ESCREVER



PORTUGUÊS



MATEMÁTICA



OUTRO [SABER]

MAIS-OU-MENOS



[Link do vídeo](#)

Source: Souza's interview, 2017.

Know more what Portuguese love write Portuguese Mathematics other [know] more-or-less

Translation: I knew more Portuguese, I loved writing in Portuguese, (but) mathematics and other (subjects) (I knew) more or less.

Complex clause 5 presents an example of syndetic comparative hypotaxis, marked by the lexical items MAIS (more) and MAIS-OU-MENOS (more-or-less). The signer establishes a comparison of the superiority of her knowledge of the Portuguese language in relation to other school subjects, such as mathematics. Again, as in the previous examples, there is the non-manual marker eye-blink over the sign MAIS (more), emphasizing the comparison between the sentences. It is also observed that the sign SABER (know), in the segment MATEMÁTICA OUTRO [SABER] MAIS-OU-MENOS (Mathematics other [know] more-or-less) is omitted in the second part of the clause. The signs MAIS (more) and MAIS-OU-MENOS (more-or-less) seem to play the function of a connective in the comparison.

Complex Clause 6 – Asyndetic Comparative Adverbial Hypotaxis



ESSE-esquerda



CURSO

ESSE-direita Não



PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO

ESSE-direita



LÍNGUA-DE-SINAIS

IX-você



LIBRAS



ESSE-direita



FAZER



CURSO



LEVAR



LÁ



ENSINAR



[Link do vídeo](#)

Source: Vilhalva's interview, 2017.

This left deep deaf conference give emotion give power empowerment this-left this-right no ix- you this-right postgraduate course sign language libras this-right take course this-right take ix- there teach

Translation: These deaf conferences are deep, provoke emotions, enable empowerment, whereas those (academic conferences) do not (have this same depth), (they are related to) postgraduate studies in sign language, Libras, you take those courses and then take (this knowledge to) teaching.

In complex clause 6, an asyndetic comparative adverbial hypotaxis can be seen with the use of space. The signer establishes a comparison between deaf conferences, specifically in deaf associations, with academic conferences. To construct this comparison, the informant uses space in the following way: she marks the deaf congresses as a reference space, on her left side, while on the right side she marks the academic congresses. With the use of space, she constructs the comparison from the emotional point of view that she perceives between the two types of conferences. Deaf conferences provide her with more emotion than academic ones. The first part of the comparison is found in the segment ESSE-esquerda CONGRESSO SURDO PROFUNDO DAR EMOCIONAR DAR PODER EMPODERAMENTO ESSE-esquerda (this-left deep deaf conference give emotion give power empowerment this-left). It is noticeable that the signer conveys her emotion whenever she participates in these conferences. The second segment presents her perception regarding academic conferences in the second segment of the clause ESSE-direita NÃO IX-você ESSE-direita CURSO PÓS-GRADUAÇÃO LÍNGUA-DE-SINAIS LIBRAS ESSE-direita FAZER CURSO ESSE-direita LEVAR IX-LÁ ENSINAR (this-right no ix-you this-right postgraduate course sign language libras this-right take course this-right take ix-there teach). Thus, the relationship between the two types of conference is marked in the space on the right or left, in which the two clauses are performed. Furthermore, when making the transition from the actions regarding the deaf conferences to the actions regarding the academic conferences, the signer keeps her index finger pointing to the first event, at the same time as she points to the second referent. In this way, she uses both index fingers to mark the comparison between the compared actions. The use of space is quite explored to construct this comparison. However, there is no lexical item that marks the comparative relationship between the linguistic events, but only the proposition that emerges from the discursive context.

Final Remarks

This article presented a discussion on comparative adverbial hypotaxis in Libras. In comparative adverbial hypotaxis, Libras employs linguistic mechanisms such as juxtaposition, the use of non-manual markings, and the use of some lexical item, whose function is to connect

clauses. There is little research on comparative adverbial hypotaxis in Libras, with some initial work on this category of complex sentence.

Data from the Libras Corpus were analyzed, with data from the Surdos de Referência. The research involved four deaf people, two women and two men. To convey the data analysis, the Elan – Eudico Linguistic Annotator software was used, which enables the use of video and audio media, as well as allows the creation of tiers for the development of the research. Therefore, tiers were created for Parataxis, Hypotaxis, and Embedding, with each category having different types of clauses. Thus, the research described data on comparative hypotaxis.

In this research, the signs IGUAL, MAIS, MAIS... DO-QUE, POUCO, PARECER and MAIS-OU-MENOS (equal, more, more... than, little, seem and more-or-less) were found as lexical items that can play the role of a connective between sentences, depending on the discursive context. In addition, these signs can be accompanied by non-manual markers, such as the eye-blink, squint eyes or raised eyebrows. This research is in its initial phase and, therefore, more results can be added in future research.

In addition to the signs that function as connectives, it was noticed that the juxtaposition of complex sentences is also a linguistic strategy present in comparative adverbial hypotaxis. Juxtaposition requires that two or more clauses combined in a discursive proposition that articulates the comparison of two or more events. Thus, linguistic mechanisms specific to sign languages are found in the data analyzed. The use of non-manual markers such as trunk and head turn, as well as the use of space on the right and left were also identified as possible linguistic mechanisms associated with comparative adverbial hypotaxis.

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